

The purpose of this research was to find goals of Chinese university students who major in Thai language studies, identify the problems in studying Thai language, find a way to solve the problems and develop the Thai language learning of Chinese students. Information was gathered from Chinese students who major in Thai language major in Yunnan Normal University, Yunnan Normal University Business School and Yunnan Nationalities University. There were two ways for selecting the samples. First, the samples from Yunnan Normal University and Yunnan Normal University Business School were selected by the teachers in the university. Second, the samples from Yunnan Nationalities University were selected by the researcher. Students selected to participate were willing to give the data to the researcher. There were 24 samples. The researcher collected data by using in-depth interview, informal interviews and direct observation. Finally the data was analyzed by the qualitative data analysis process. These are the results of this research.

1. Chinese students had 2 reasons for learning Thai language.

1.1 They appreciated the beauty of language.

1.2 They liked the character of the Thai language.

2. Chinese students who chose to study Thai language expected to use their knowledge after graduated in their careers after graduation.

2.1 Some students wanted to be teachers or instructors who teach Chinese language in Thailand or teach Thai language in China.

2.2 Some students wanted to be interpreters and guides in Thailand and China.

2.3 Some students wanted to be diplomatists or government officials in the consul.

3. Chinese students who studied Thai language had 2 problems with Thai language.

3.1 The difficulty in pronouncing the four Thai tone marks.

3.2 The difficulty in using the right vocabulary words.

4. Chinese students proposed various ways to study Thai language successfully.

4.1 Chinese students should practice using more Thai language in daily life.

4.2 Chinese students should practice their Thai language with their teacher every time they have a chance.

4.3 Chinese students who learn Thai language should also study Thai history and Thai culture.

4.4 Chinese students should have Thai friends. When they have home work, their Thai friends can help them.

4.5 Chinese students should have more choices to study Thai language through media.

4.6 Chinese students should remember more Thai vocabulary words.

4.7 The Chinese Government should offer more support to students who wish to study Thai in other countries.